

## **FOLLOWING THE FAITH OF GODLY LEADERS HEBREWS 13:7**

George Washington is known as the Father of our nation. He is certainly a pillar in the foundation of our great country. What were the views of this man who played such a role in determining who we are as a people? Whatever those views may have been, they certainly shaped his priorities and commitments and his recorded comments reveal his views in matters of religion. Let's consider his views on vital religious matters.

### I. The Nature of God.

" It would be peculiarly improper to omit in this first official act, my fervent supplications to that Almighty Being, who rules over the universe, who presides in the council of nations, and whose providential aids can supply every human defect, that His benediction may consecrate to the liberties and happiness of the people of the United States.." "...Every step by which they have advanced to the character of an independent nation, seems to have been distinguished by some token of providential agency" *From President George Washington's Inaugural Address, April 30th, 1789, addressed to both Houses of Congress.*

### III. The Nature of Christ.

A. Revealed in His Use of John 11:25,26. Peter Lillback, 357.

\* Used in a funeral service for a fallen officers and on Washington's tomb at Mt. Vernon. \*

B. Revealed in His Prayers. – Handwritten prayers were found in Washington's personal belongings. It is not certain if they were written by him or copied from other sources. Lillback, 801ff.

“My sins, remove them from thy presence, as far as the east is from the west, and accept of me for the merits of thy Son Jesus Christ”

“Be merciful unto me, O God, and pardon me for Jesus Christ sake”

“ O, blessed Father, let thy son's blood wash me from all impurities, and cleanse me from the stains of sin that are upon me.”

“ Do more for me than I can think or ask, for Jesus Christ sake, in whose most holy name and Words, I continue to pray.”

“And so into Thy hands I commend myself, both should and body, in the name of Thy son, Jesus Christ, beseeching Thee, when this life shall end, I may take my everlasting rest with Thee in Thy heavenly kingdom.

### III. The Holy Scriptures.

“It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible.”

“...The Smiles of Heaven can never be expected On a Nation that disregards the eternal rules of Order and Right, which Heaven Itself Ordained.”

According to the testimony of his adopted daughter, Eleanor Custis, Washington retired to his study about 9 or 10 each evening and remained there until going to bed. He arose to the same place where he remained until called to breakfast. His first and last hours of the day were spent in devotions.

### IV. The Importance of the Church.

#### A. During his time in Virginia.

1. A vestryman at Pohick Church.
2. Rev. Lee Massey’s testimony. Benjamin Morris, 619.
  - a. Faithful in attendance.
  - b. Reverent in attitude.
  - c. Did not allow company to prevent him from attending on Sunday.

#### B. During His Time in the Military.

\* Whenever possible he attended services at the camp or attended a nearby church. \*

#### C. During His Time as President in Philadelphia. Morris, 619.

Eleanor Custis reports that he had a pew in Christ Church where he regularly attended on Sunday morning. In the evening he retired to his chamber where he read a sermon or portion of Scripture to Mrs. Washington.

The Father of our Nation left us an example to follow. If our nation follows his example great leaders will continue to rise and our nation will be blessed by them.



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